Per Unit Subsidy(Rs./Cyl.)

	From Govt. Budget	By Oil Companies	Total
2002-03	67.75	62.27	130.02
2003-04	45.18	89.54	134.72
2004-05	22.58	. . 124.89	147.47
2005-06	22.58	152.46	175 04
2006-07 (Apr.-Dec/06)	22.58	■ 154.51	■ 177.09

Reduction in sales tax has helped oil marketing companies in reducing their under-recoveries incurred on selling domestic LPG at below their cost.

CNG pipeline network in Andhra Pradesh

1599. SHRI SUDARSHANA KARAPU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up a plan for laying a gas pipeline network from KG basin to Hyderabad and other important cities in the State of Andhra Pradesh for supply of compressed natural gas (CNG);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) (a) to (c) Reliance Gas Transportation Infrastructure Limited (RGTIL) has been authorized to lay Kakinada-Hyderabad-uran-Ahmedabad gas pipeline, which would supply gas from offshore fields of KG Basin to Hyderabad, as also other cities of Andhra Pradesh. Expressions of Interest (Eol) for taking capacity in the gas pipeline have been invited for Kakinada-Hyderabad-Bhopal pipe;.' be laid by Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPCL). Expressions of interest (Eol) have also been invited for Vijayawada-Ne Chennai and Kakinada-Basudebpur-Howrah gas pipeline to be laid by RGTIL

GAIL (India) Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited have incorporated a Joint Venture company, namely, M/s Bhagyanagar Gas Limited for implementation of City Gas Projects in Andhra Pradesh. The setting up of CNG network in Hyderabad would depend upon the techno-economic feasibility and tying-up of gas supply for the project.

Co-operation with USA in the hydrocarbon sector

1600. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has signed an agreement with USA for co-operation in the field of hydrocarbon;

(b) if so, the details in this regard including the objectives India has to meet and the benefits it is likely to receive under the agreement;

(c) whether it is also a fact that obligations on the country outweigh the benefits likely to be received; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India and the Department of Energy, Government of United States of America signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 9.2.2006 for exchange of information relating to hydrocarbon sector. The main objective of the co-operation under the arrangement is to establish for mutual benefit, reasonably balance exchange of hydrocarbon sector information to complement existing hydrocarbon sector statistics.

(c) and (d) The activities under the MoU. will be beneficial to both the countries in learning from each other's expertise in collection and analysis of data pertaining to hydrocarbon sector.

Kerosene quota for Himachal Pradesh

1601. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: